## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, the 23 with the following:
Fig. 1 shows the the effects of pH on the activity of alkaline protease KP43.
Fig. 2 shows the effects of pH on the stability of alkaline protease KP43
(40°C., 30 minutes).
Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 1 with the following:
Fig. 3 shows the effects of pH on the stability of alkaline protease KP43 (10°C, 24
hours).
Fig. 4 shows the effects of temperature on the activity of alkaline protease KP43.
Fig. 5 shows the effects of temperature on the stability of alkaline protease KP43.
Fig. 6 shows the effect of an oxidizing agent (50 mM hydrogen peroxide) on the
activity of alkaline protease KP 43.
Fig. 7 shows N-terminal sequences of KP9860 protease and partially degraded
products thereof (SEQ ID NOS:9-13, appearing in descending order in Fig. 7).
Fig. 8 shows primer sequences (SEQ ID NOS:14-20) designed from an N-terminal
sequence of KP9860 protease (SEQ ID NOS:9-13). 9860-N2, and its variants shown in Fig.
8, corresponds to SEQ ID NO:14. 9860-18k-RV, and its variants shown in Fig. 8,
corresponds to SEQ ID NO:15. 9860-18k, and its variants shown in Fig. 8, corresponds to
SEQ ID NO:16. 9860-25k-RV, and its variants shown in Fig. 8, corresponds to SEQ ID
NO:17. 9860-25k, and its variants shown in Fig. 8, corresponds to SEQ ID NO:18. 9860-28k
RV, and its variants shown in Fig. 8, corresponds to SEQ ID NO:19. 9860-28k, and its
variants shown in Fig. 8, corresponds to SEQ ID NO:20.

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\_\_\_\_\_Fig. 9 shows 57 bp PCR-amplified fragments and primer designs (<del>SEQ ID NOS:21</del> 24 primer 1 = SEQ ID NO:21, primer 2 = SEQ ID NO:22, primer 3 = SEQ ID NO:23, and primer 4 = SEQ ID NO:24).